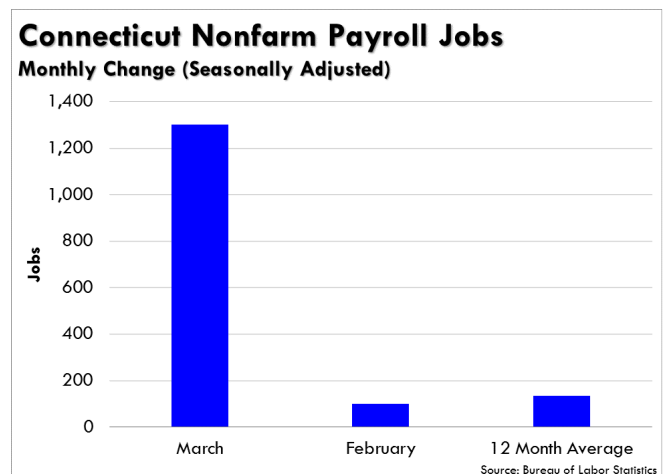
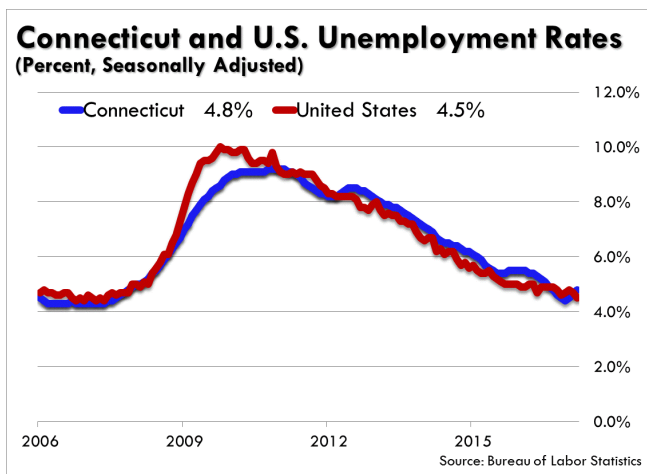


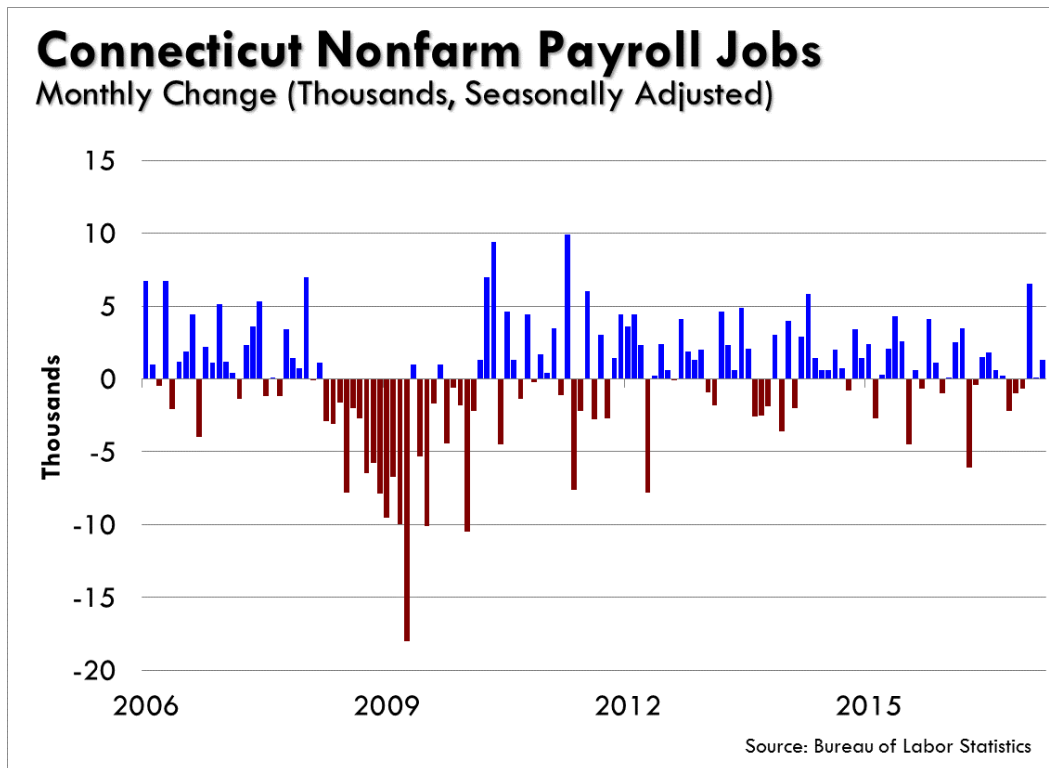


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Connecticut added 1,300 jobs and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.8 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Connecticut added 1,600 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage point from 5.4 percent.
- **In March, Connecticut's private sector added 1,200 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 5,900 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Connecticut residents rose by 2,368 in March**, and over the past year 31,195 Connecticut residents found jobs.
- Connecticut's **labor force participation rate increased to 66.5 percent** from 66.2 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Connecticut Payroll Employment

Connecticut added 1,300 jobs, or 0.08 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Connecticut added 100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Connecticut increased by 1,600, or 0.10 percent. Connecticut nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Connecticut ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

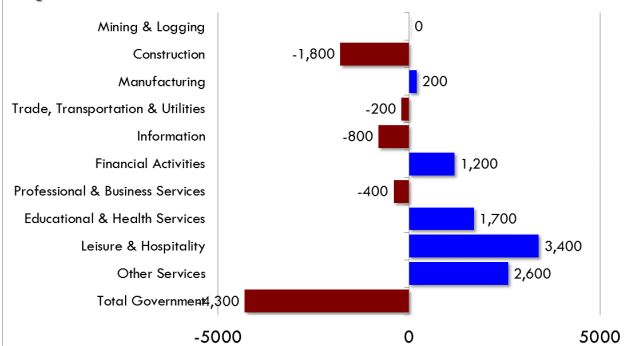
During March, Connecticut's private-sector added 1,200 jobs, or 0.08 percent. The private-sector in Connecticut added 200 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Connecticut increased by 5,900, or 0.41 percent. Connecticut private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Connecticut ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Other Services (+1,300) and Leisure & Hospitality (+1,100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,500) and Educational & Health Services (-700).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+3,400) and Other Services (+2,600). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Total Government (-4,300) and Construction (-1,800).

Change in Connecticut Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted.

Connecticut Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force Participation

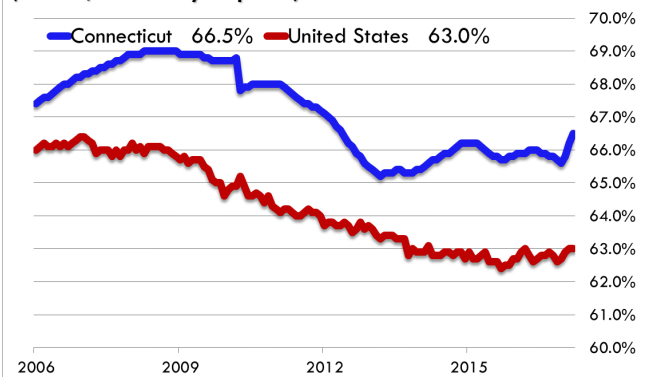
The labor force participation rate in Connecticut rose to 66.5 percent in March from 66.2 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 15 have a higher labor force participation rate than Connecticut. The labor force participation rate in Connecticut is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Connecticut was 69.0 percent in December 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Connecticut occurred in November 1991 when the labor force participation rate hit 71.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 65.2 percent in March 2013. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in January 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 63.9 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Connecticut civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 63.3

Connecticut and U.S. Labor Force Participation (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

percent in March from 63.0 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 15 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Connecticut. The employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut is 0.9 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut was 65.5 percent in January 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut occurred in December 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 68.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 60.1 percent in April 2013. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.6 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

